

**FOUNDATION OFFERS FINANCIAL SEMINAR
FOR CLERGY APRIL 29-MAY 1**

Beginning this spring the Foundation will add a new financial workshop to its educational curriculum with the introduction of “**Now** You Tell Me: A Clergy Guide to Personal and Church Finance.” According to Foundation President Tom Marston, the course is designed to help clergy acquire financial management skills that are sorely missing in seminary training but are absolutely essential to success.

The seminar is an intensive three-day workshop set for April 29-May 1 in Orlando. It will lay out the basics of personal and church finance, including how to develop a theology of money. Topics covered include fundamentals of finance and financial planning, church finance, stewardship and the cultural challenges facing clergy and the church. Workshop leaders include Foundation and Conference staff and outside professionals with wide-ranging expertise on financial matters. Continuing Education credits will be offered.

“Clergy are often at a real disadvantage,” Marston said, “because they come out of seminary with high expectations and a pretty heavy student loan debt. When they encounter the reality of salary and living expenses they are already in the hole and facing difficult choices on how to plan for a secure financial future.”

“We hope that the financial seminar will help our pastors navigate these treacherous waters,” he added. “We have learned through experience that financial hardship is the primary reason people leave the ministry. We need to do as much as we can to help our clergy succeed.”

“Because the sessions on personal finance impact families,” Marston said, “we encourage couples to attend this seminar together.” Cost is \$195 for couples and \$125 for single attendees. Tuition covers overnight accommodations, workshop sessions and materials and most meals. Under special circumstances, scholarships are available.

The seminar will be held at The Marriott Courtyard in the Marriott Village at Lake Buena Vista, 8623 Vineland Avenue, Orlando, 32821.

Space is limited to 25 participants. Couples count as one participant. Information and online registrations is available at the Foundation website, www.fumf.org. Registration deadline is April 2.